



PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/548,203  
Applicant : Theodore M. Osborne et al.  
Filed : April 13, 2000  
T.C./A.U. : 2122  
Examiner : Mary J. Steelman  
Docket No. : EMPIR-019PUS  
Customer No. : 022494

Confirmation No.: 6649

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2004

Technology Center 2100

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

15-Jan-04Date of Signature  
and Mail DepositBy: David W. Rouille  
David W. Rouille  
Reg. No. 40,150AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.